

OXFORD

Starter

DOMINOES

Blackbeard

Retold by John Escott

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Blackbeard



STARTER LEVEL

250 HEADWORDS

OXFORD

UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford, OX2 6DP, United Kingdom

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Blackbeard

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First published 2016

ISBN: 978 0 19 462918 8 (code) & 978 0 19 462919 5 (in-app)

Print edition ISBN: 978 0 19 424714 6

Print edition first published in Dominoes 2008

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Illustrations by: Sebastian Camagajevac/Beehive Illustration

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Spottswood).

DOMINOES

Series Editors: Bill Bowler and Sue Parminter

Blackbeard

Retold by John Escott

Illustrated by Sebastian Camagajevac

John Escott has written many books for readers of all ages, and particularly enjoys writing crime and mystery thrillers. He was born in the west of England, but now lives on the south coast. When he is not writing, he visits second-hand bookshops, watches videos of old Hollywood movies, and takes long walks along empty beaches. He has also written *The Wild West*, *A Pretty Face*, *Kidnap!* and *The Big Story*, and retold *William Tell* and *Other Stories* for Dominoes.

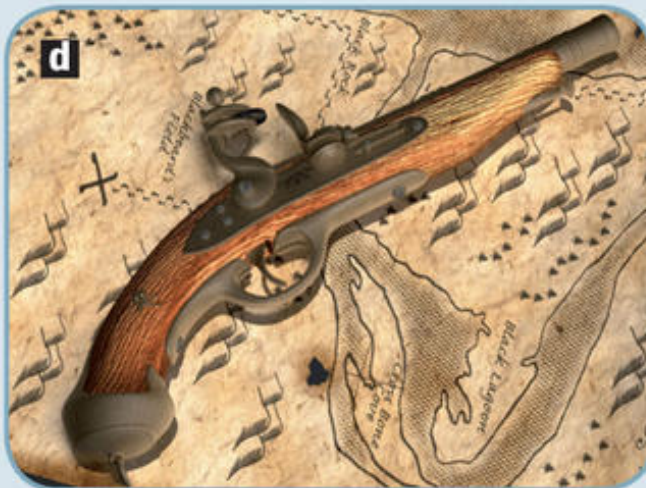
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ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

1 Match the words with the pictures. Use a dictionary to help you.

governor pirate pistol ship sword treasure



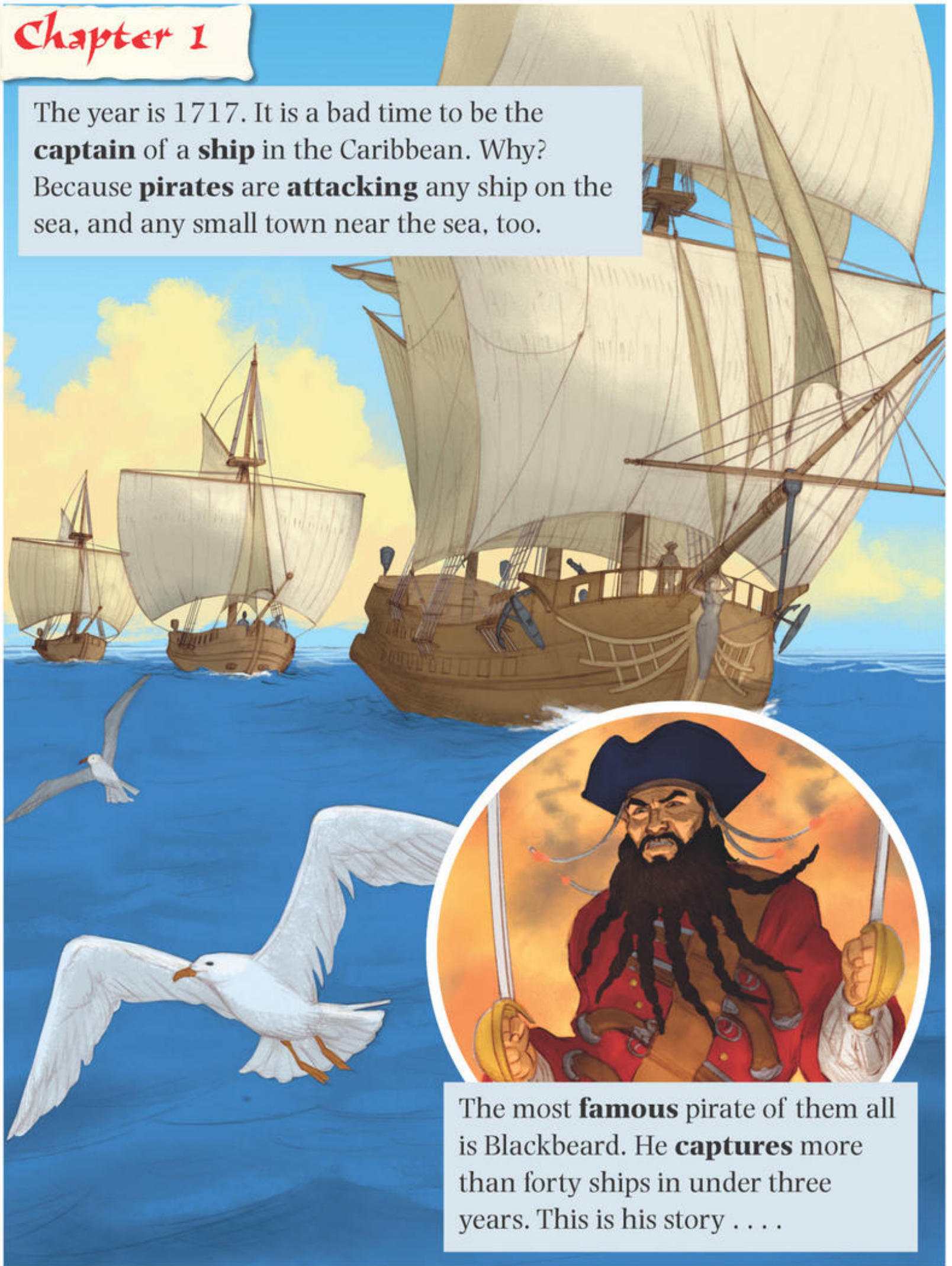
2 Complete the sentences with the things from 1 in the correct form.

- a Blackbeard is a Caribbean
- b He takes more than forty..... from different countries in the Caribbean Sea.
- c The..... of North Carolina is Blackbeard's friend; the of Virginia wants to kill Blackbeard.
- d Blackbeard dies when he is under forty with a and in his hands.
- e He doesn't leave lots of behind him when he dies.

3 Compare your ideas with a partner.

Chapter 1

The year is 1717. It is a bad time to be the **captain** of a **ship** in the Caribbean. Why? Because **pirates** are **attacking** any ship on the sea, and any small town near the sea, too.



The most **famous** pirate of them all is Blackbeard. He **captures** more than forty ships in under three years. This is his story

captain the most important person on a ship

ship you use a ship to go across the water

pirate someone who takes ships and the things on them without asking

attack to begin fighting

famous that everybody knows

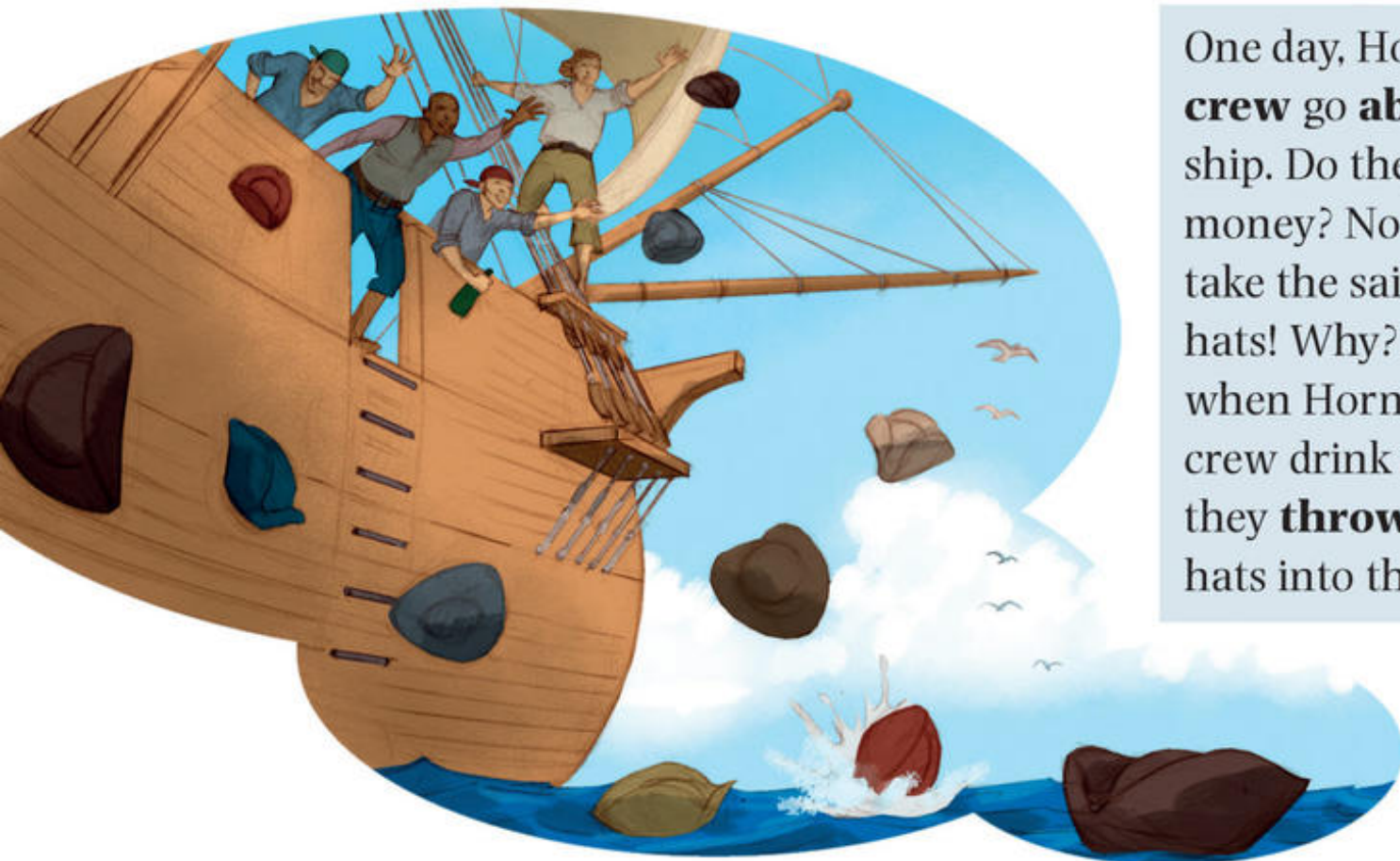
capture to take and not give away



When **Queen** Anne's **War** finishes in 1713, English **sailor** Edward Teach has no work. Teach is 34 years old, and comes from Bristol. He is only happy when he is at sea.



Soon Teach meets Benjamin Hornigold. Hornigold is the captain of the pirate ship the *Mary Anne*. He is one of the nicer Caribbean pirates. There is a story about him.



One day, Hornigold's **crew** go **aboard** a ship. Do they take money? No. They take the sailors' hats! Why? Because when Hornigold's crew drink a lot, they **throw** their hats into the sea!

queen the most important woman in a country

war fighting between countries or people

sailor a man who works on a ship

crew all the people who work on a ship

aboard on or onto a ship

throw to make something move from your hand through the air

Edward Teach is soon the captain of one of Hornigold's smaller ships. He is a quick thinker, and a good sailor, and he quickly learns to be a pirate.



In early 1717, Teach and Hornigold attack and capture six more small ships. The *Betty* is one of them.

One day, the **lookout** on the *Mary Anne* calls out, 'Ship to **starboard**!' The lookout is the man up on the ship's **mast**. 'It's a French ship, *La Concorde*,' he cries. *La Concorde* is a very big ship.



'Make the **guns** ready!' Captain Hornigold calls to his crew.

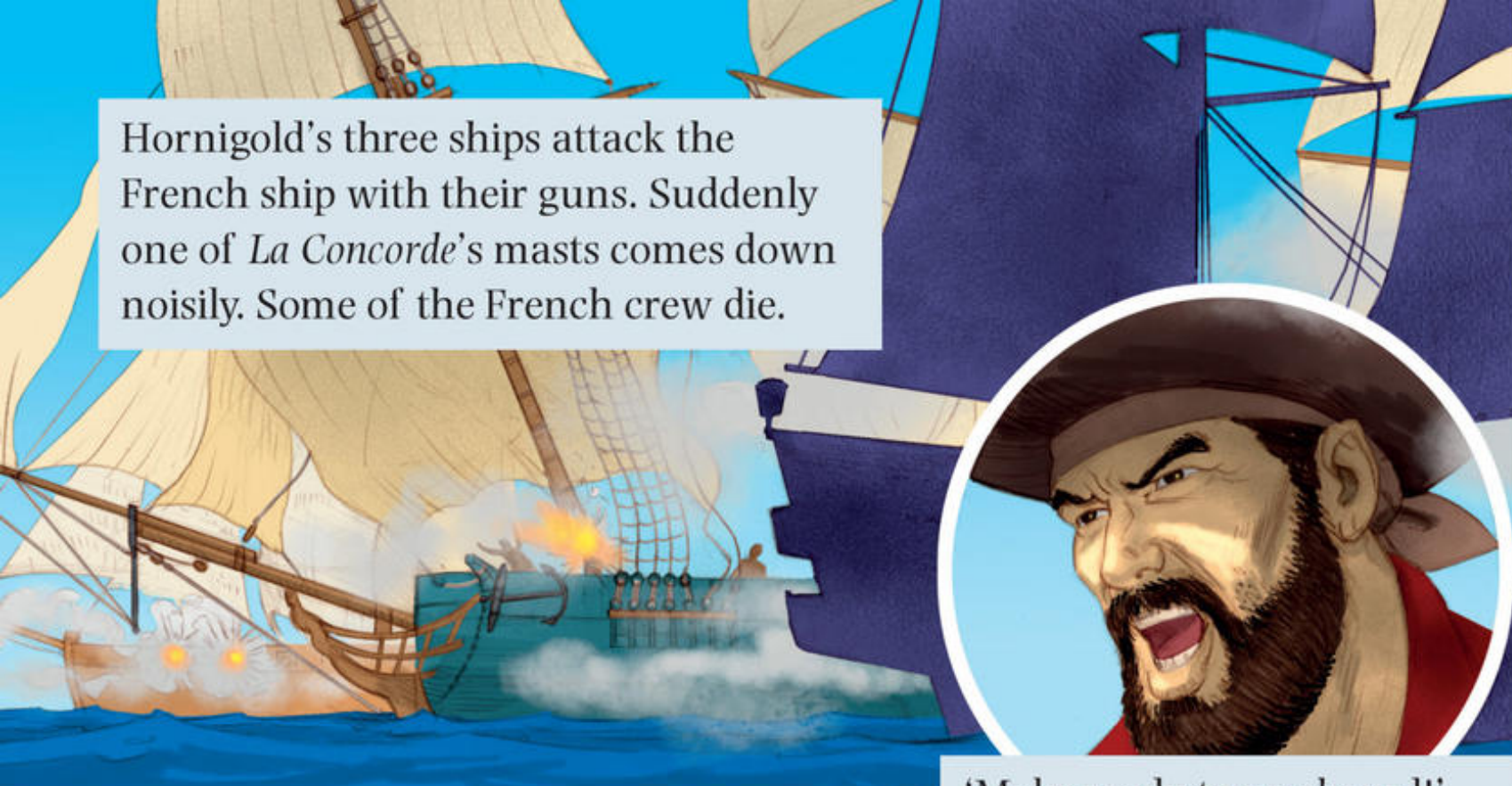
lookout a sailor who looks to see what is in front of the ship

starboard the right of a ship

mast the tall thing on an old ship which has the sails on it, and where a lookout sits

gun a ship can fight with this

Hornigold's three ships attack the French ship with their guns. Suddenly one of *La Concorde*'s masts comes down noisily. Some of the French crew die.



'Make ready to go aboard!' Teach tells his men.

Teach and his men go aboard the French ship and the **fight** begins. Pirates and Frenchmen die, but Teach's men take the ship. The captain and crew of *La Concorde* cannot stop them.



All the *La Concorde* crew feel very afraid. Their captain – **Pierre Dosset** – asks Teach, 'Do you want to kill us?' 'No, I don't,' Teach says. 'But tell me something. Where's all your **gold**?' The captain does not answer.



fight when you hit someone many times

Pierre Dosset /pjeə 'dɒsei/

gold an expensive yellow metal

'Speak, man, or you die!' Teach says. He hits the French captain across the mouth.
'Never!' says the captain. 'Do your worst!'



Teach walks across to a young French boy. 'You, boy!' he says to him. 'What's your name?'
'**Louis Arot, sir,**' the boy answers.
'Where's the gold, boy?' Teach asks.
'Take me to it!'



Louis takes Teach to the captain's **cabin**.
'The gold's here, sir,' he says.
'Thank you, boy,' Teach says, and he smiles.



Louis Arot /'lu:wi 'ærəʊ/

sir you say this when you talk to an important man

cabin a room on a ship

READING CHECK

Match the people in Chapter 1 with the sentences.



Hornigold



Louis Arot



Queen Anne



Teach



the French captain



the *Mary Anne's* lookout

- a Queen Anne of England dies in 1714.
- b 's ship is the *Mary Anne*.
- c One day and his men go on to a ship and take people's hats.
- d comes from Bristol and works with
- e sees the French ship *La Concorde* first.
- f and his men take *La Concorde*.
- g wants *La Concorde's* gold, and he hits
- h The cabin boy takes to the gold.

WORD WORK

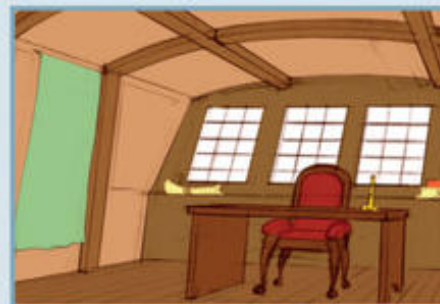
1 Find words from Chapter 1 to match the pictures.



a captain



b _____



c _____



d _____



e _____



f _____

2 Use the words in the Caribbean Sea to complete the sentences.

- a Long John Silver is a ...famous... pirate with one leg. He comes from a book by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- b Queen Anne's is between France and England in North America. It begins in 1702 and finishes in 1713.
- c Sailors, when they are looking to the front of a ship, call the right of the ship '.....'.
- d There is a of fifty-nine Frenchmen on *La Concorde*.
- e The between Teach's 250 pirates and the French finishes quickly.
- f When Teach goes *La Concorde*, he meets its captain, Pierre Dosset.
- g In the 1700s pirates many ships in the Caribbean.
- h Teach more than forty ships in only a few years.

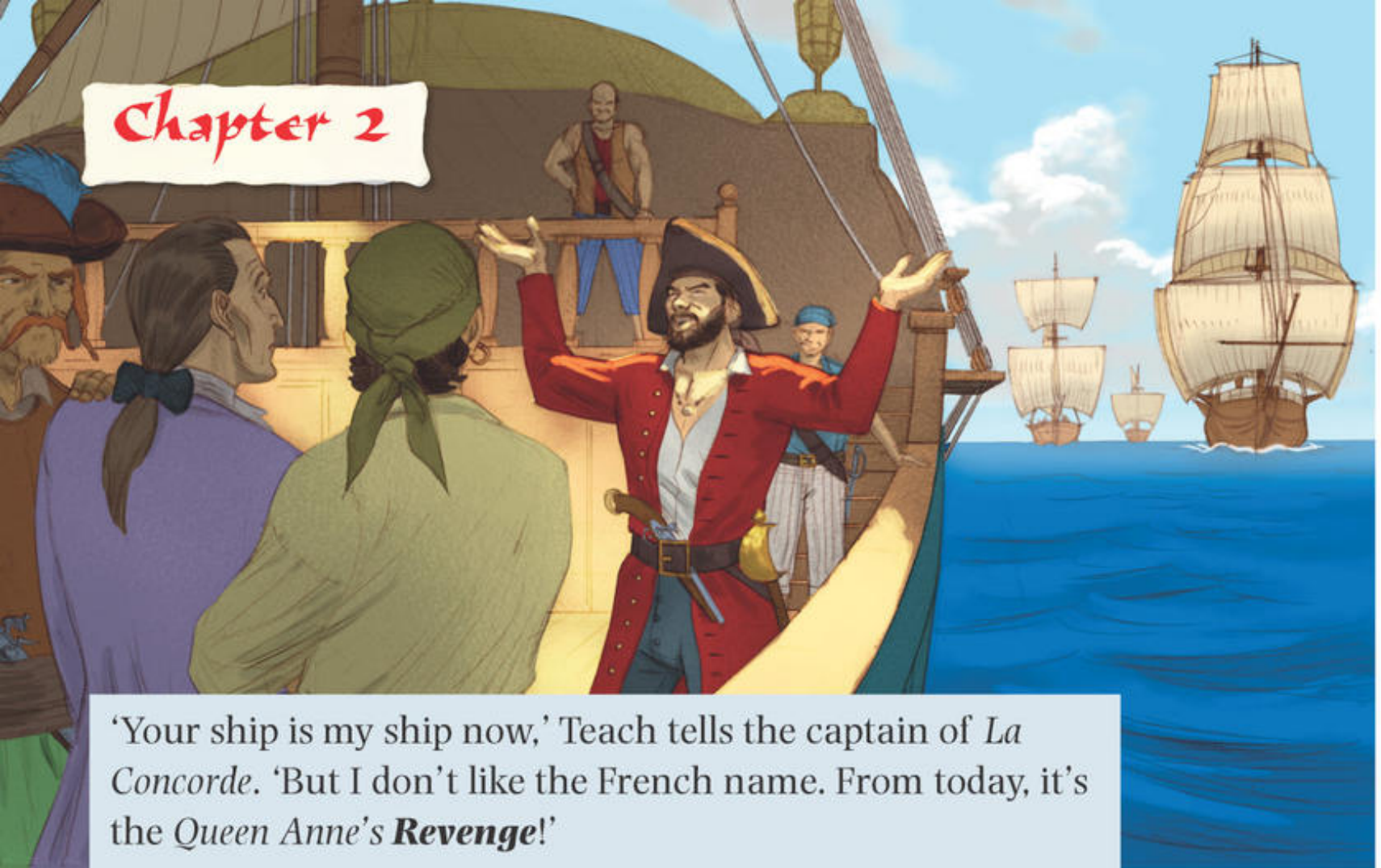


GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick two boxes to finish each sentence.

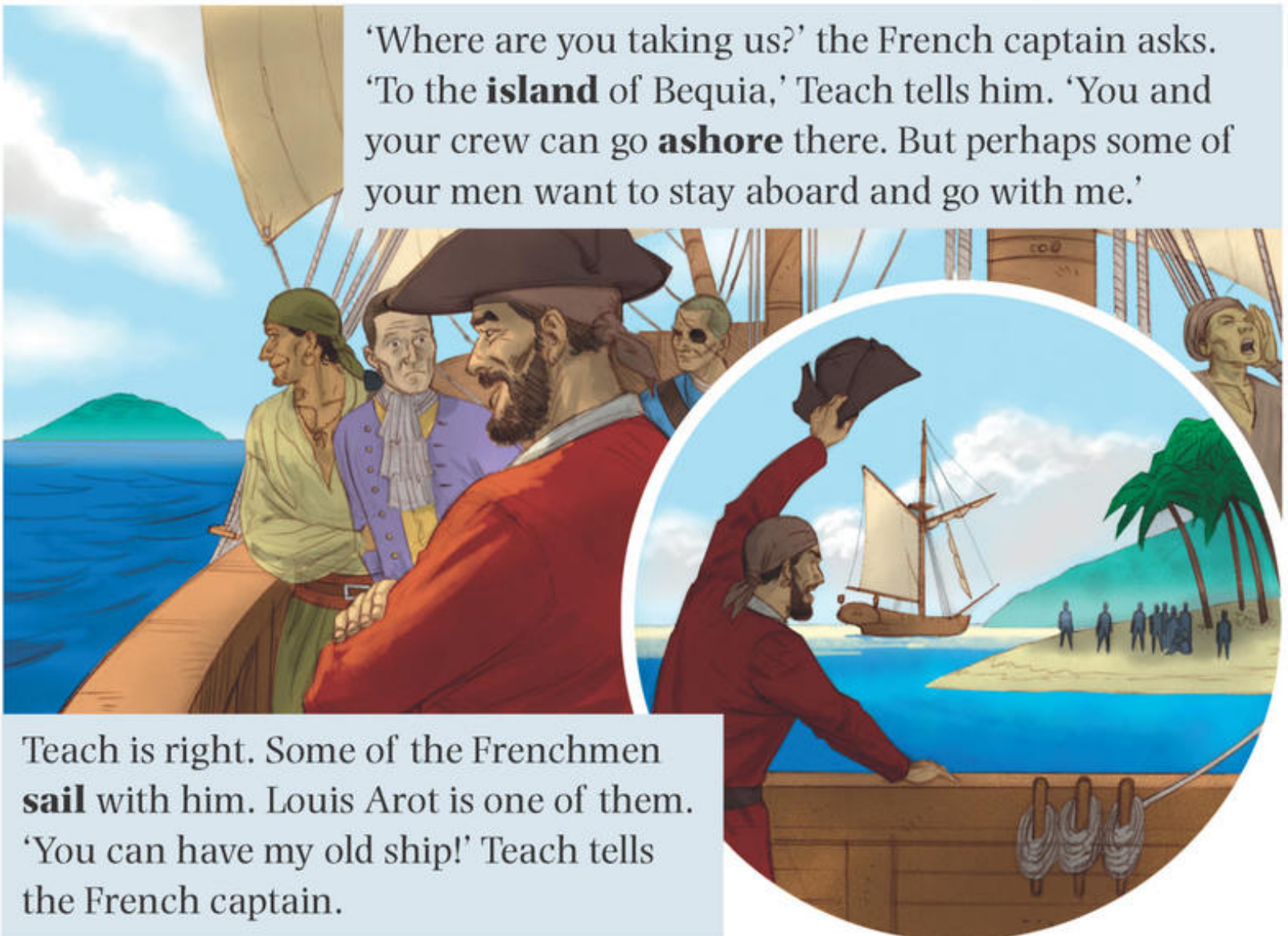
- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>a Edward Teach ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ☐ gives a new name to <i>La Concorde</i>. 2 ☐ leaves most of <i>La Concorde</i>'s crew alive. 3 ☐ kills all of <i>La Concorde</i>'s crew. <p>b Captain Pierre Dosset ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ☐ leaves <i>La Concorde</i>. 2 ☐ dies. 3 ☐ has Teach's old ship. | <p>c Louis Arot ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ☐ goes with Teach. 2 ☐ kills Captain Dosset. 3 ☐ is now a pirate. <p>d Benjamin Hornigold ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 ☐ dies suddenly. 2 ☐ stops being a pirate. 3 ☐ gives a ship to Teach. |
|---|---|

Chapter 2



‘Your ship is my ship now,’ Teach tells the captain of *La Concorde*. ‘But I don’t like the French name. From today, it’s the *Queen Anne’s Revenge*!’

‘Where are you taking us?’ the French captain asks. ‘To the **island** of Bequia,’ Teach tells him. ‘You and your crew can go **ashore** there. But perhaps some of your men want to stay aboard and go with me.’



Teach is right. Some of the Frenchmen **sail** with him. Louis Arot is one of them. ‘You can have my old ship!’ Teach tells the French captain.

revenge when you do something bad to someone after they do something bad to you

island a country in the sea
ashore on or onto the land

sail to go across the water

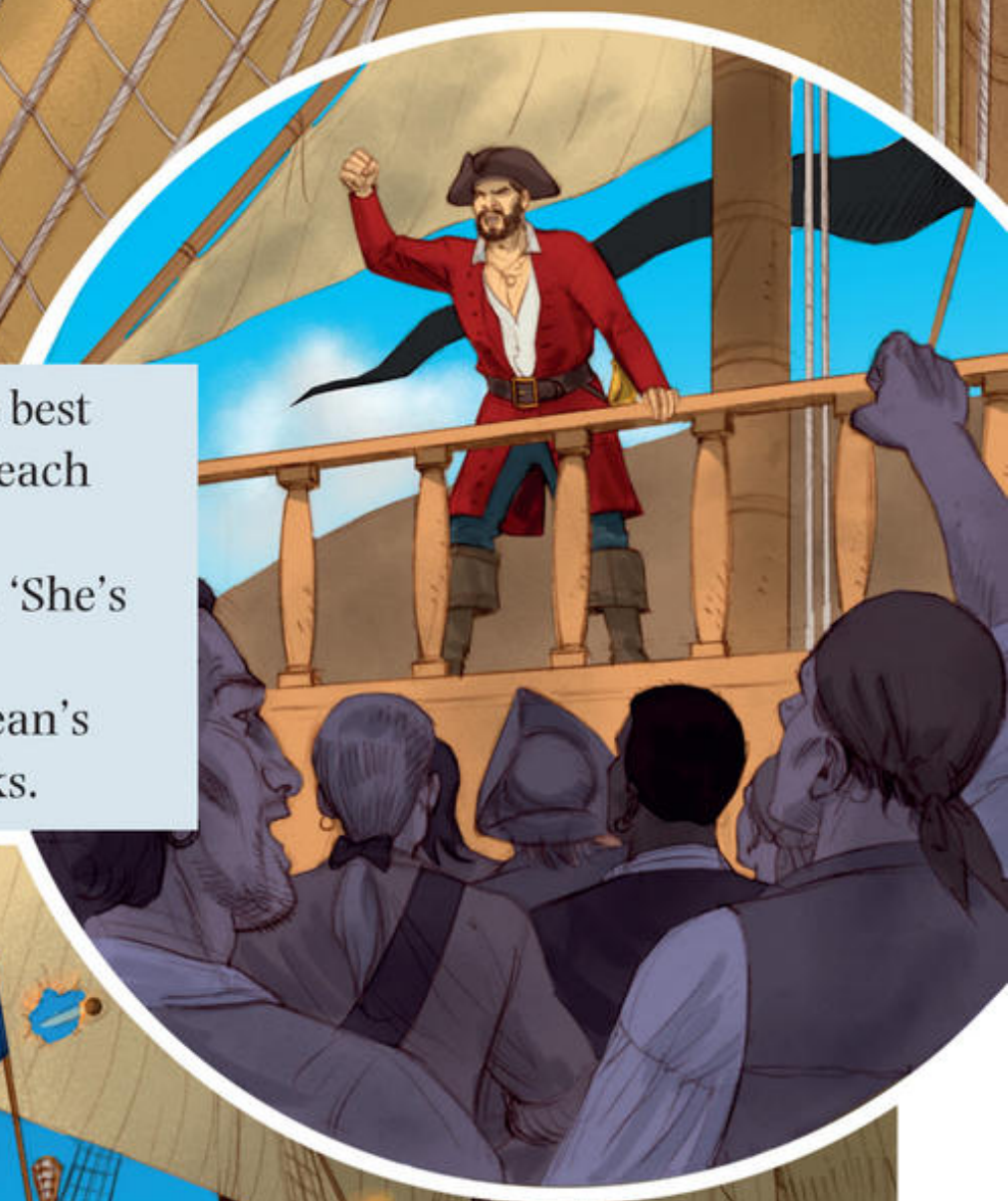


Some days later, Captain Hornigold comes aboard the *Queen Anne's Revenge*. 'You can have this ship now, Teach,' Hornigold says. 'I'm going home to my **wife**. No more pirate's **adventures** for me. I'm tired of them.'

'The *Queen Anne's Revenge* is the best pirate's ship in the Caribbean!' Teach tells his crew. 'Am I right?'

'**Aye!**' Blackbeard's men answer. 'She's the best of all the pirate ships!'

'The best of ships for the Caribbean's most famous pirate,' Teach thinks.



For the next half year, Teach and his crew bring **terror** to ships all over the Caribbean. Soon, every ship's captain and every sailor knows about Teach.

wife a woman living with a man

aye a sailor's 'yes'

adventure something very exciting that happens to you

terror a feeling of being afraid

Because Teach has a long black **beard**, people give him a new name – ‘Blackbeard the Pirate’. He’s the most **frightening** of all the pirates on the sea.



Alexander Spotswood is the **Governor** of Virginia. Every day, ships’ captains come to him with frightening stories about Blackbeard the Pirate.



‘We must stop this man Blackbeard!’ Spotswood says, angrily. ‘That’s easy to say,’ **Lieutenant** Robert Maynard of the **Royal Navy** tells him. ‘But his ship, the *Queen Anne’s Revenge*, is fast and it has forty guns.’

beard the hair on a man’s face
frightening making people afraid

governor a person who looks after a far country for a king or queen

lieutenant /lef'tenənt/ an officer on a ship

royal navy all the king’s or queen’s ships

At the same time Blackbeard and his men are all ashore. They are drinking happily in the pirate town of Port Royal in Jamaica.



‘Do I want to stop being a pirate, go ashore, take a wife, and live to be an old man?’ thinks Blackbeard. He has fourteen wives, or a woman in every town in the Caribbean, people say.



But he cannot forget the easy money, the gold, and all of his exciting adventures at sea. And he cannot leave his pirate ship for a house ashore.

READING CHECK

Choose the correct pictures.

a Where does Teach take the crew of *La Concorde*?



1 ☒ to a small island.



2 ☐ to the city of Port Royal.



3 ☐ to the Governor of Virginia.

b What does Teach give to the French captain?



1 ☐ gold.



2 ☐ a small island.



3 ☐ his old ship.

c Who does Louis Arnot go with?



1 ☐ Hornigold.



2 ☐ Teach.



3 ☐ the French captain Pierre Dosset.

d Who does Hornigold go home to?



1 ☐ his wife.



2 ☐ his young son.



3 ☐ his old mother.

WORD WORK

Use the words in the pirate flag to complete the sentences.

- a Teach gets his name 'Blackbeard the Pirate' from his long black beard.
- b Jamaica is an
- c Mary Ormond was Blackbeard's number fourteen.
- d Sailors don't say 'yes', they say say '.....'.
- e Blackbeard is a man, and many ships' captains are afraid of him.
- f Bill Clinton was the of Arkansas for many years.
- g Blackbeard has many exciting before he dies.
- h The is the name for all the king's or queen's ships and sailors.
- i Blackbeard the Pirate the Caribbean for five years – from 1713 to 1718.
- j A is an officer on a ship. He is not as important as a captain.
- k Blackbeard's name brings to people's faces when they hear it.
- l When sailors leave their ships to visit islands, they 'go'.
- m When you kill people in my family, I kill people in your family. That's



GUESS WHAT

What does Blackbeard do in the next chapter? Tick three sentences.

- a ☐ He captures a Spanish ship.
- b ☐ He meets Governor Spotswood.
- c ☐ He leaves some Spanish sailors on a small island.
- d ☐ He has a fight with Lieutenant Maynard.
- e ☐ He attacks the town of Charleston.
- f ☐ He talks about finding help for his crew when they are ill.

Chapter 3



In April that year, Blackbeard captures a new ship – the *Adventure* – near Honduras. ‘You can sail with me, Herriot,’ he tells the captain. ‘You can be one of my crew.’

Captain David Herriot is afraid. He cannot say ‘no’ to Blackbeard. ‘Aye, aye, Captain,’ he says.



Some weeks later, they sail near the Cayman Islands.



‘Spanish ship to starboard, captain!’ calls the lookout of the *Queen Anne’s Revenge*.

‘To the guns men!’ Blackbeard calls. ‘And be ready to go aboard when I say!’
The guns of the *Queen Anne’s Revenge* and the *Adventure* are soon **firing** at the Spanish ship.



‘To the **boats!**’ Blackbeard tells his men.
The men put **small** boats into the sea and **jump** into them.

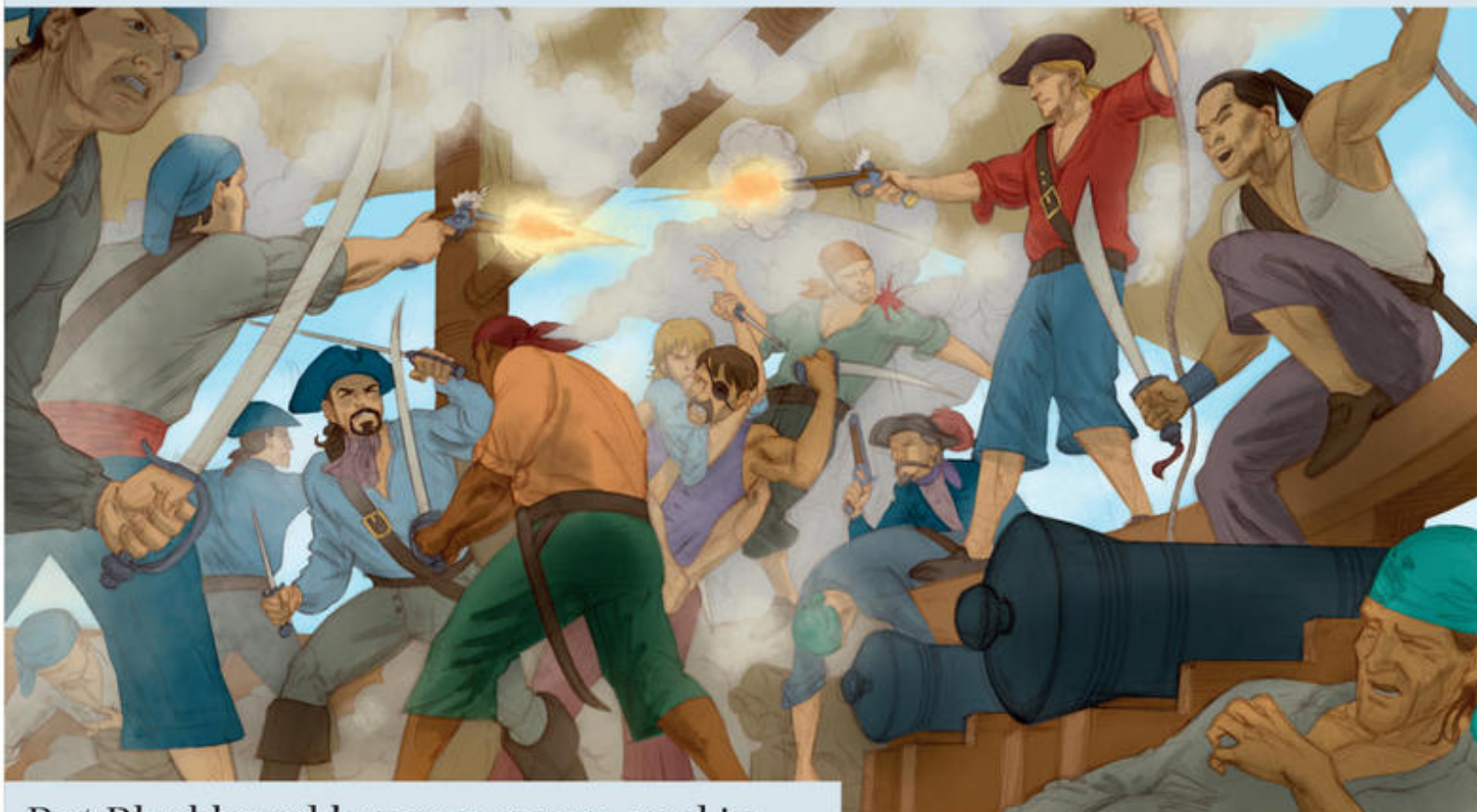
fire to attack with a gun

boat a little ship

small little

jump to move fast on your legs from one thing to a different thing

When Blackbeard and his men go aboard the Spanish ship, the Spanish crew and their captain are ready and waiting. And they fight well.



But Blackbeard has many men, and in the end he captures the ship. With his long black beard, his **pistols**, and his **sword** he looks a very frightening man.



Soon after that, Blackbeard puts the captain and the crew of the Spanish ship ashore on a small island. Now the **Cubana** is Blackbeard's ship, too.

pistol a person can kill someone with this

sword a long knife that you fight with

Cubana /ku:'bænæ/

In May 1718 Blackbeard and his ships are near the town of Charleston in South Carolina.



‘We need **medicine**,’ the ship’s **doctor** tells Blackbeard. ‘Some of the crew have a **fever**, and there’s no medicine for them on the ship.’ ‘Then let’s find some,’ Blackbeard says.



‘How?’ the doctor asks. ‘We can’t go into Charleston. We’re pirates, and they can capture us and kill us there.’ ‘Then the good people of Charleston can bring the medicine to us,’ Blackbeard says, and he laughs.



medicine something that you eat or drink to help you get better when you are ill

doctor a person who helps people when they are ill

fever when you get very hot because you are ill

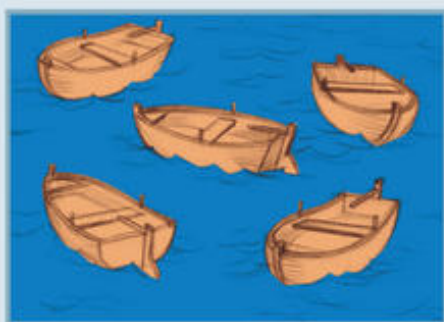
READING CHECK

Are these sentences true or false? Tick the boxes.

	True	False
a Blackbeard captures the ship <i>The Adventure</i> near Honduras.	☒	☐
b He tells the captain, David Herriot, 'You must die.'	☐	☐
c He captures a Spanish ship near the Cayman Islands.	☐	☐
d The Spanish crew and their captain fight badly.	☐	☐
e Blackbeard kills the Spanish captain and his crew.	☐	☐
f Many of Blackbeard's crew are ill when his ships are near Charleston, South Carolina.	☐	☐
g Blackbeard's pirates can easily go into Charleston for help.	☐	☐

WORD WORK

Correct the sentences about the pictures with words from Chapter 3.



a There are a lot of ~~goats~~ ^{boats} in the sea.



b He's got a bad ~~lever~~.



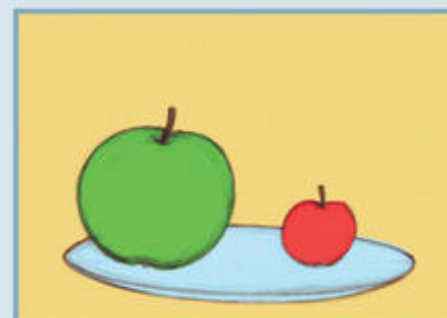
c Her ~~daughter~~ looked at her carefully.



d When you feel tired, this ~~magazine~~ can help you.



e Be careful when you are ~~tiring~~ your gun not to hit someone.



f Do you want the big apple or the ~~smell~~ apple?



g I can bump from this chair to that chair.



h That's a very old chord.

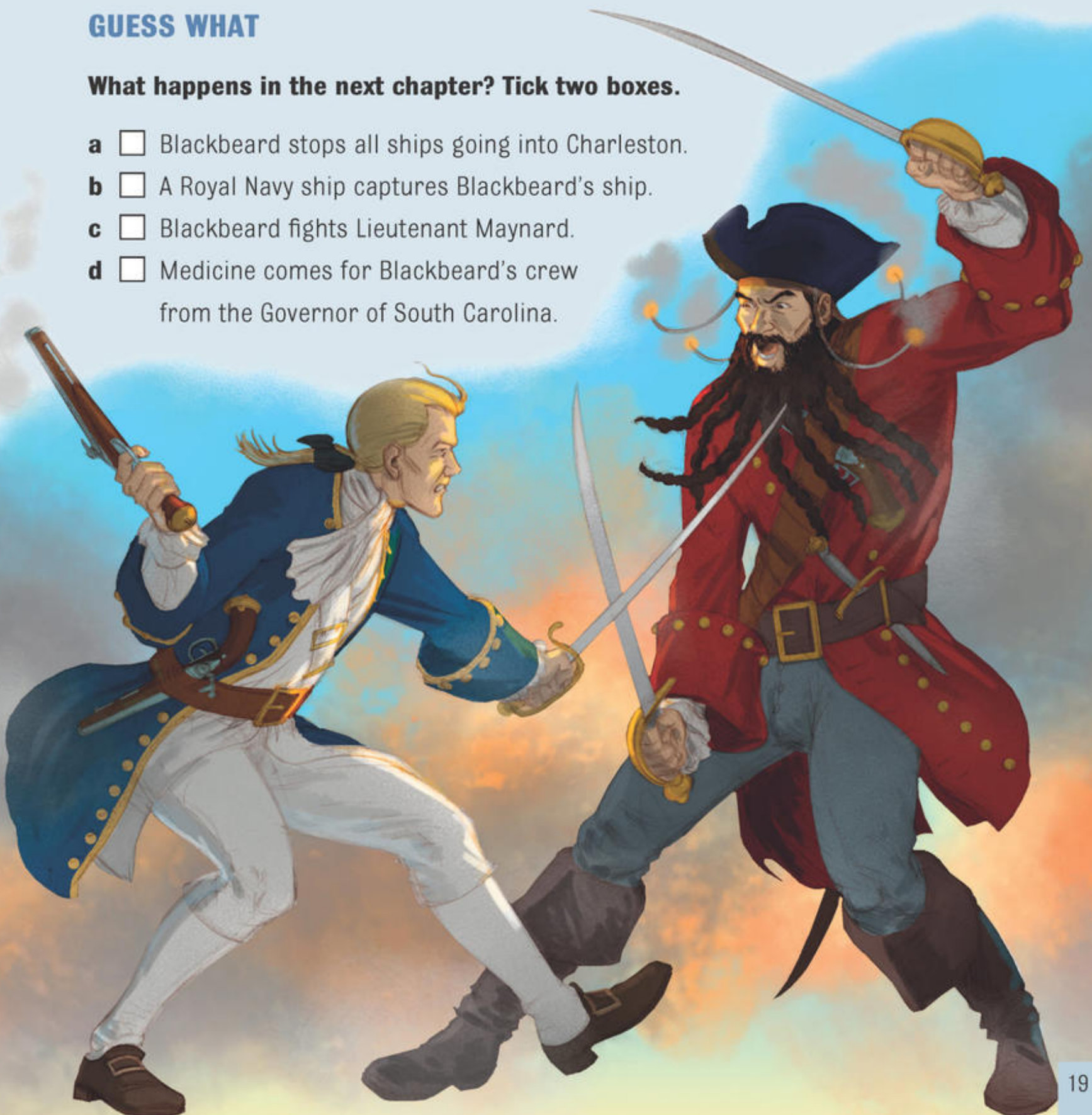


i In the old days people had piston fights.

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick two boxes.

- a** ☐ Blackbeard stops all ships going into Charleston.
- b** ☐ A Royal Navy ship captures Blackbeard's ship.
- c** ☐ Blackbeard fights Lieutenant Maynard.
- d** ☐ Medicine comes for Blackbeard's crew from the Governor of South Carolina.



Chapter 4

In the next week, Blackbeard and his men capture eight ships. One of these ships is the *Crowley*.

After a quick fight, its crew and captain **surrender**.



There is a Charleston **councillor** aboard the *Crowley*. His young son is with him. The boy is four years old, and there is terror in his eyes. 'I want to go ashore now,' the councillor tells Blackbeard. 'Do you?' Blackbeard says. He smiles. 'Perhaps in a day or two. But first you can write a **letter** to the Governor of South Carolina.'

surrender to stop fighting because you cannot win

councillor an important man that looks after a town

letter you write this to tell something to someone



‘A letter?’ the councillor says. ‘What do I write?’

‘Tell the governor, “**Send** a **chest** of medicine to the *Queen Anne’s Revenge*”,’ Blackbeard says. ‘You and your son can go to Charleston when the medicine arrives, but not before then.’

‘Tell the governor, “No ships can come into – or leave – Charleston before the medicine arrives on the *Queen Anne’s Revenge*,”’ Blackbeard says.

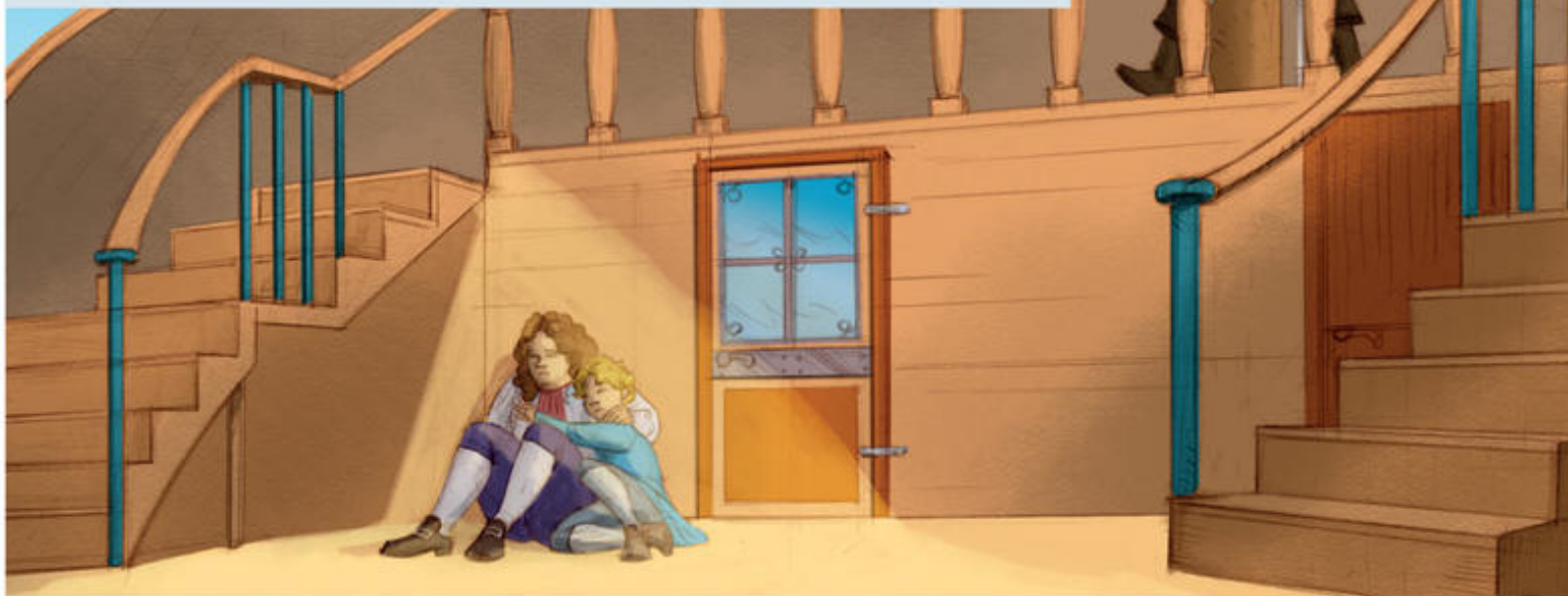
When it is ready, two of Blackbeard’s men take the letter to the governor.



send to give something to someone
to take somewhere

chest a big box to put things in

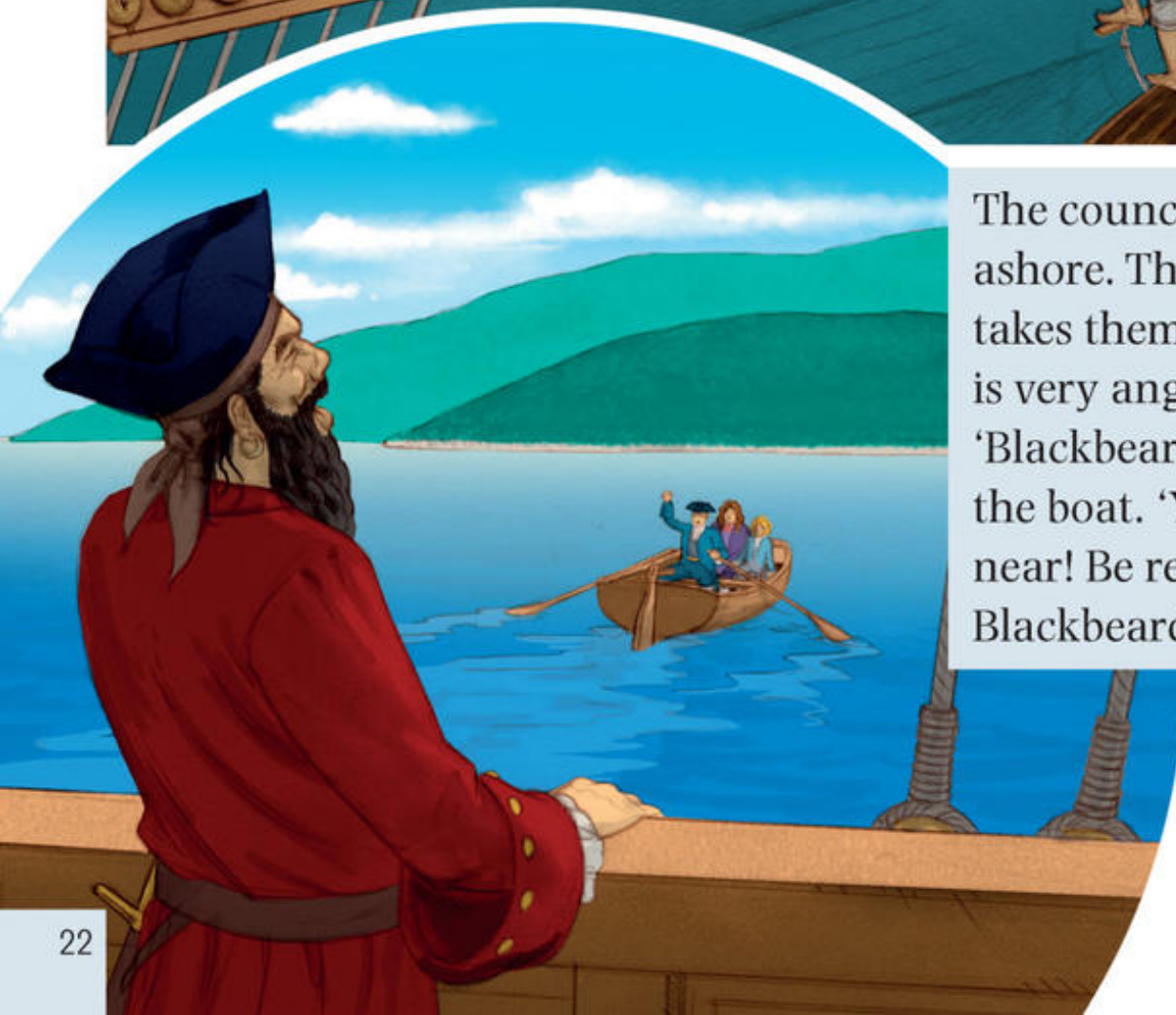
For three days Blackbeard waits for the medicine. The councillor is very afraid all this time. 'Blackbeard can easily kill my son and me!' he thinks. 'Where's the medicine? Perhaps my friend the governor doesn't want to send it.'

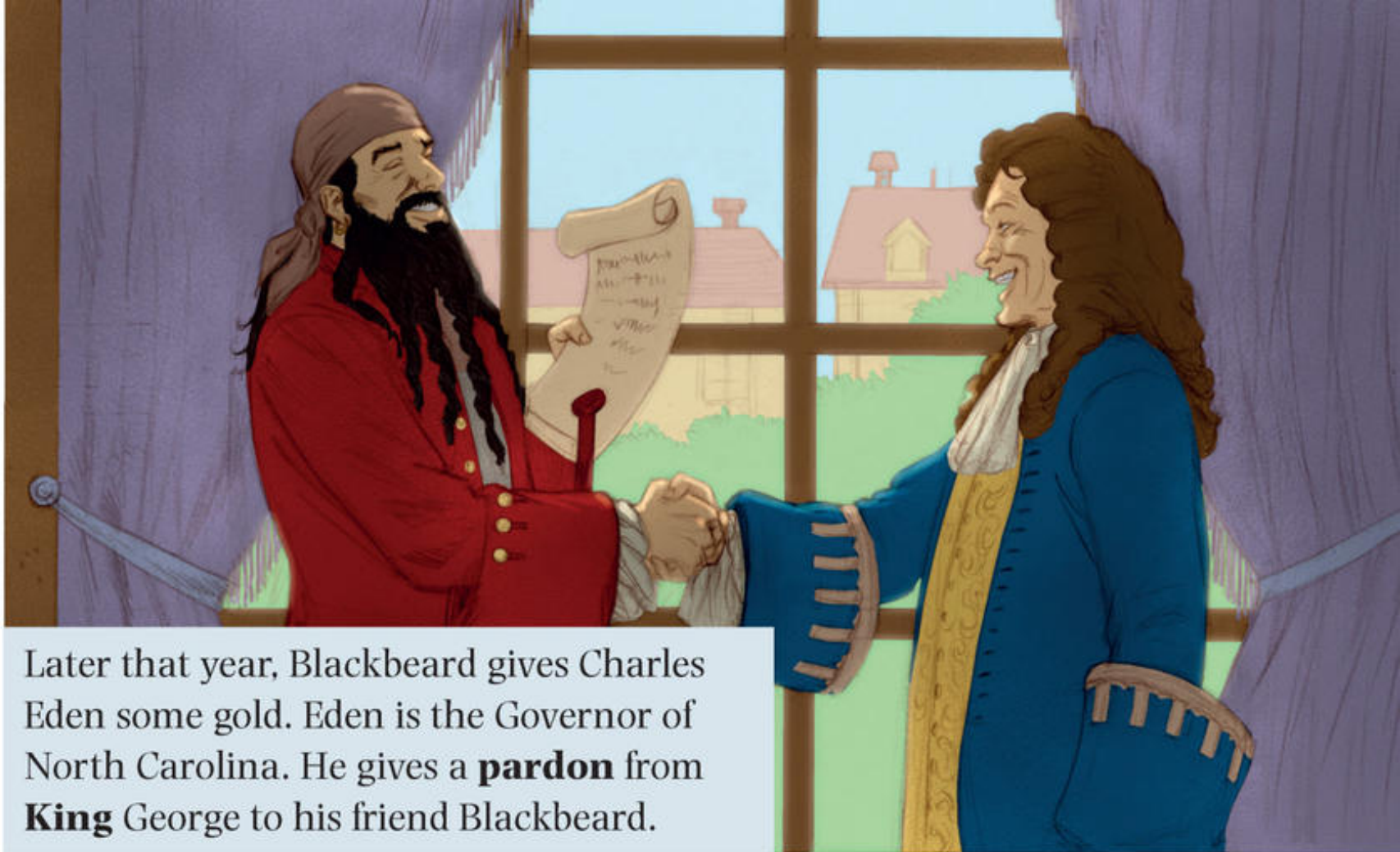


The next day, the chest of medicine arrives.



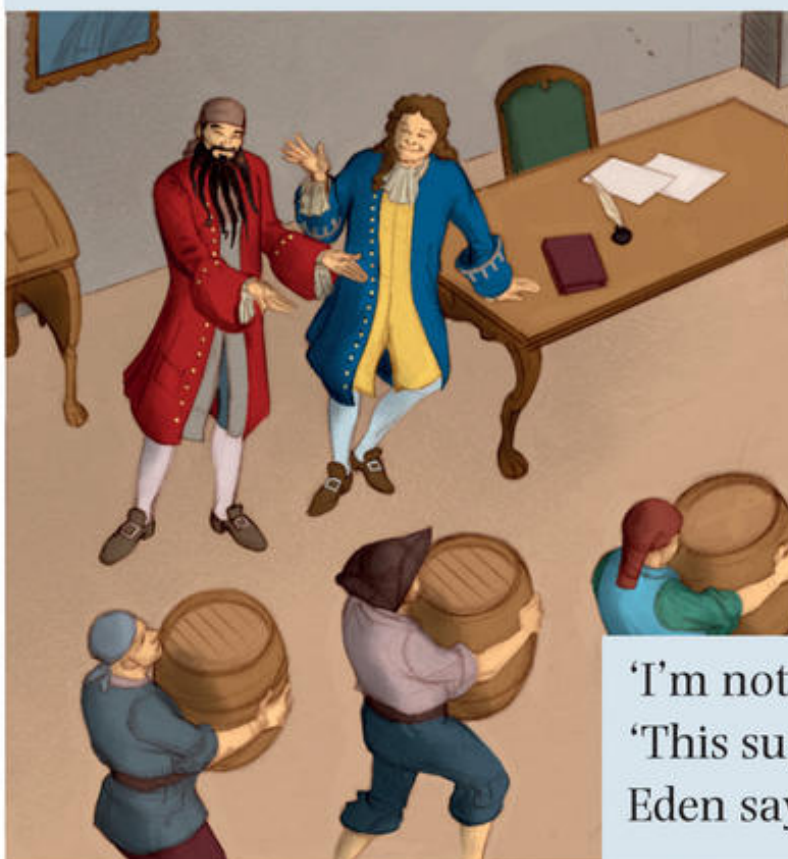
The councillor and his son go ashore. The *Crowley's* captain takes them in a small boat. He is very angry. 'Blackbeard,' he calls up from the boat. 'Your last days are near! Be ready to die.' Blackbeard laughs at him.





Later that year, Blackbeard gives Charles Eden some gold. Eden is the Governor of North Carolina. He gives a **pardon** from **King** George to his friend Blackbeard.

The next day, Blackbeard captures a French ship and kills its crew. He gives **sugar** from the ship to Eden.
'No more pirate adventures, Blackbeard. Don't forget your pardon,' says Eden.



'I'm not a pirate now,' answers Blackbeard.
'This sugar is from an **abandoned** ship.'
Eden says nothing, and he takes the sugar.

pardon a letter from someone important which says that someone bad does not need to die

king the most important man in a country

sugar this is white or brown and sweet

abandoned with no men on it

READING CHECK

Choose the correct words to complete these sentences.

- a Blackbeard captures eight more ships / towns.
- b On the *Crowley* he finds an important man from London / Charleston and his young son.
- c The man writes a letter to the Governor of South Carolina / King of England.
- d The letter asks for medicine / gold for Blackbeard.
- e Blackbeard stops ships going into Charleston / Port Royal and waits for an answer to the letter.
- f Three days / weeks later the answer arrives.
- g When the answer comes, Blackbeard is happy / angry.
- h In the end, the important man and his son die / go home.
- i The Governor of North / South Carolina is Blackbeard's friend.
- j Blackbeard gets a pardon from King George / Queen Anne.

WORD WORK

Complete the sentences with the words in the pirate swords.

- a A town councillor works to make things better for the people in a town.
- b Stop your fight with us, and _____.
My crew is bigger than your crew.
- c In the captain's cabin there's a big _____ with gold in it.
- d There's an old car by the road with no one in it.
It's an _____ car.
- e Do you want some _____ in your hot milk?

clonocirlu

rurneserd

shect

debondana

argus

f We're _____ you some money.
You can get something nice with it.

gindens

g The king is giving you a _____. No one can
capture you and kill you in his name now. So you
can stop being a pirate and be a good man.

danpro

h I'm writing a _____ to my aunt to say 'thank you'
for the book.

terelt

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick the boxes.

Yes No

a Governor Spotswood hears about Blackbeard's
adventures in Boston.

☐ ☐

b He sends Lieutenant Maynard after Blackbeard.

☐ ☐

c Maynard dies in a fight with Blackbeard.

☐ ☐

d Blackbeard leaves two of his bigger ships and their
crews behind.

☐ ☐

e He takes all his gold with him in a smaller ship.

☐ ☐

f Blackbeard's men kill him before the Royal Navy can
capture him.

☐ ☐



Chapter 5

The Virginia Governor, Alexander Spotswood, hears the **news** about Blackbeard's **blockade** of Charleston. 'He can't do this to us!' Spotswood says, angrily.



Lieutenant Robert Maynard of the British Royal Navy is with the governor.

'How can we catch Blackbeard?' Spotswood asks him. 'He isn't an easy man to find,' Maynard says. 'We need help. We must wait for more ships from England.' 'No,' Spotswood says. 'We must do something *now*.'



Soon after that, Blackbeard sails to Old **Topsail Inlet** in North Carolina. By now, there are three hundred pirates on his three ships.



When they arrive, the *Queen Anne's Revenge* and one of the smaller ships – the *Cubana* – go **aground**. Only the *Adventure* is all right because she is far behind them.

news when someone tells you something new

blockade when someone stops ships arriving at or leaving a town by the sea

topsail this sail goes up near the top of the mast

inlet a small arm of the sea that has land to left and right

aground on land that is not under much water, from which it is difficult for a ship to move



‘We must wait for the sea to come in tonight before we can move,’ Blackbeard tells his crew. ‘Take some **rum** ashore in the small boats, and wait there.’

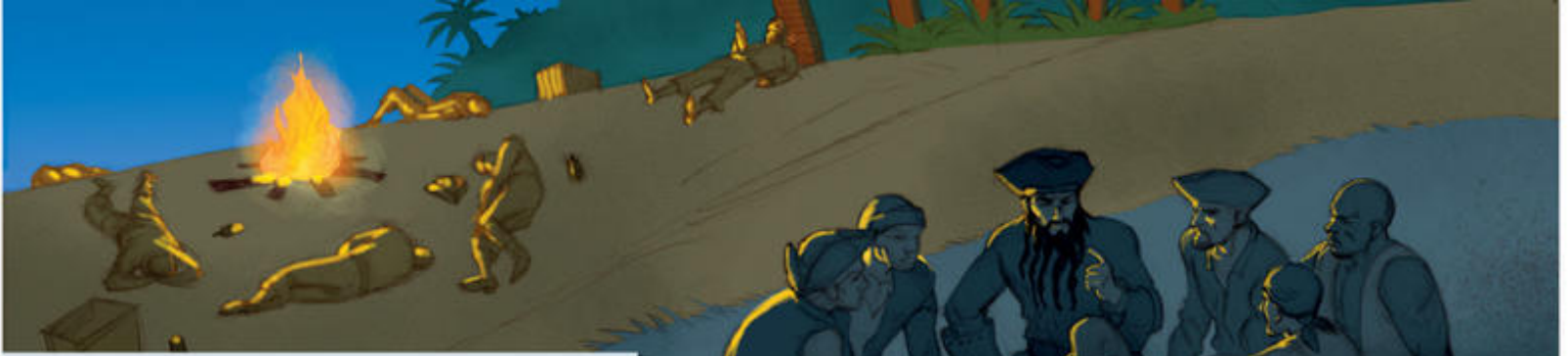
So the pirates from the *Queen Anne’s Revenge* and the *Cubana* make their boats ready to go ashore.

When the boats are ashore, Blackbeard speaks quietly with some of the pirates.



That evening, Blackbeard’s men drink rum and sing. Most of them drink a lot, and they go to sleep early before it’s dark.

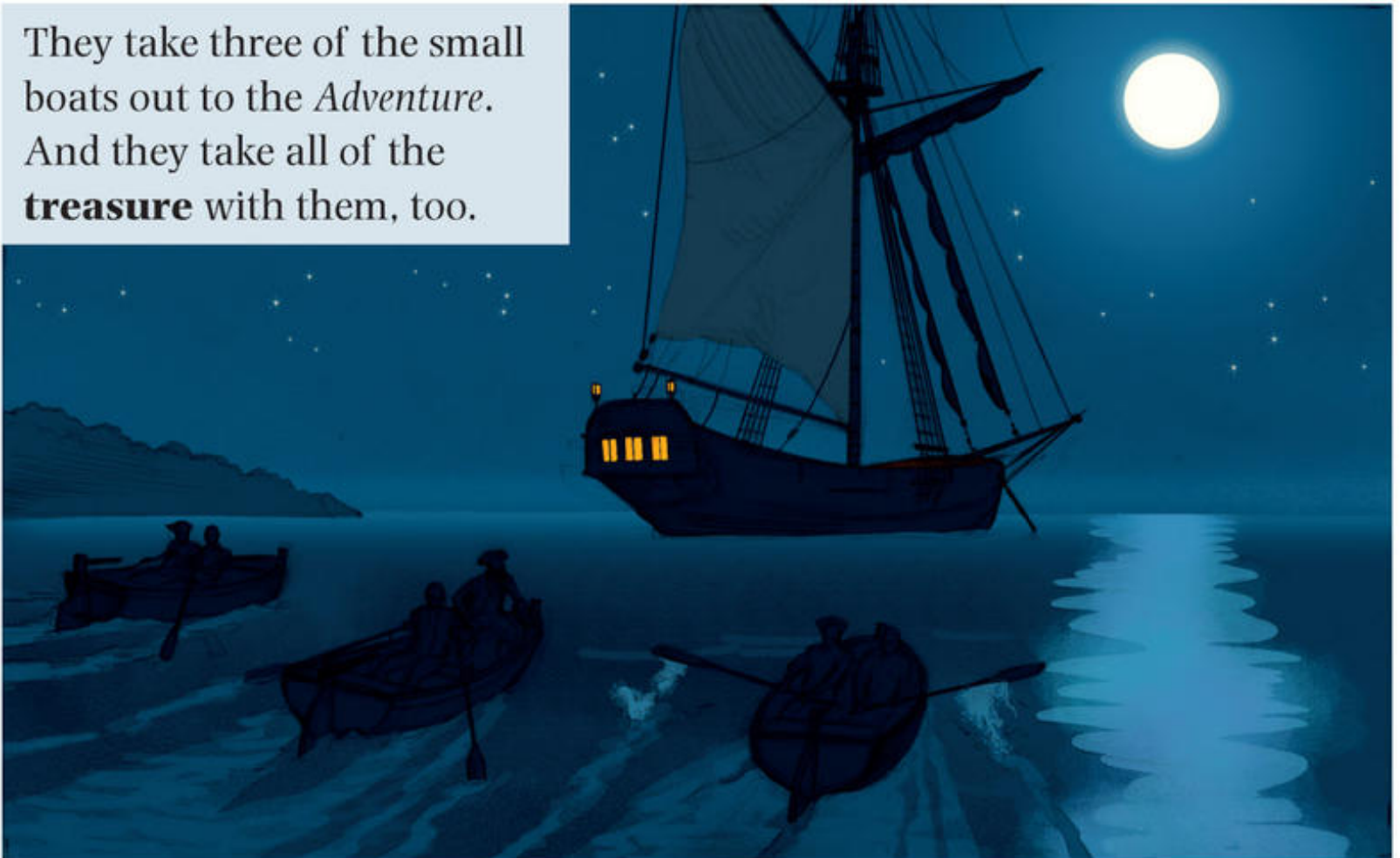
rum an alcoholic drink made from sugar



But some don't drink much,
and they don't go to sleep.
'Come with me,' Blackbeard
says quietly to these men.
'We can go now.'



They take three of the small
boats out to the *Adventure*.
And they take all of the
treasure with them, too.



In the morning, the pirates
ashore look for the *Adventure*.
'Where's the ship?' they ask.
'More importantly, where's
Blackbeard?'
'And most important of all,
where's the treasure?' cries
one man.

treasure something expensive, like
gold



With a smaller crew and only one ship now, Blackbeard can move faster than before. 'One ship isn't very easy to **catch**,' Blackbeard tells his crew.

'Does the Royal Navy want to catch us, Captain?' one of the pirates asks. 'Are the stories true?' 'Aye, they're true,' Blackbeard answers.



'The Governor of Virginia wants us all dead!' Blackbeard thinks. 'But can he kill me – the most famous pirate in the Caribbean? No!'

catch to take quickly

READING CHECK

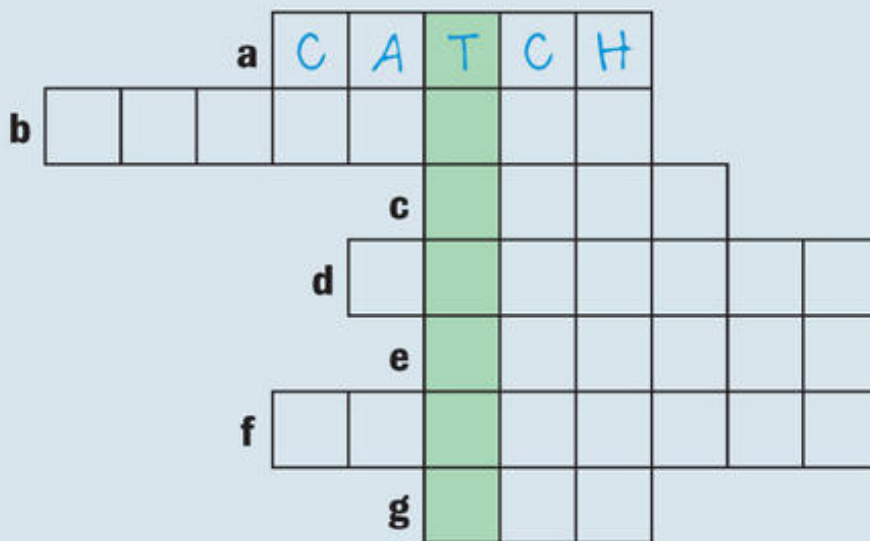
Correct the sentences.

- a Alexander Spotswood is ~~happy~~ ^{angry} when he hears about Blackbeard's Charleston adventure.
- b Blackbeard sails his four ships to North Carolina.
- c Three of his ships go aground there.
- d The pirates must wait for the sea to go out before they can move these ships.
- e They go ashore in big boats.
- f Many of Blackbeard's men drink and go to sleep late that night.
- g Blackbeard and some of his men take boats out to the *Queen Anne's Revenge*.
- h They take all Blackbeard's rum with them too.
- i The Governor of North Carolina wants Blackbeard dead.

WORD WORK

1 Read the sentences and complete the puzzle with words from Chapter 5.

- a Spotswood wants to . . . Blackbeard and kill him.
- b There's a . . . of the airport. No planes can arrive or leave.
- c What's the latest . . . about the war?
- d Be careful with the boat! The sea is out now. We don't want to go
- e There's a little . . . on the island and small ships can stop there.
- f On the island of Monte Cristo there's a big chest with . . . in it.
- g . . . is a drink from the Caribbean.



2 Read the green squares to find the name of the British Governor Spotswood's home town in North Africa. T _ _ _ _ _

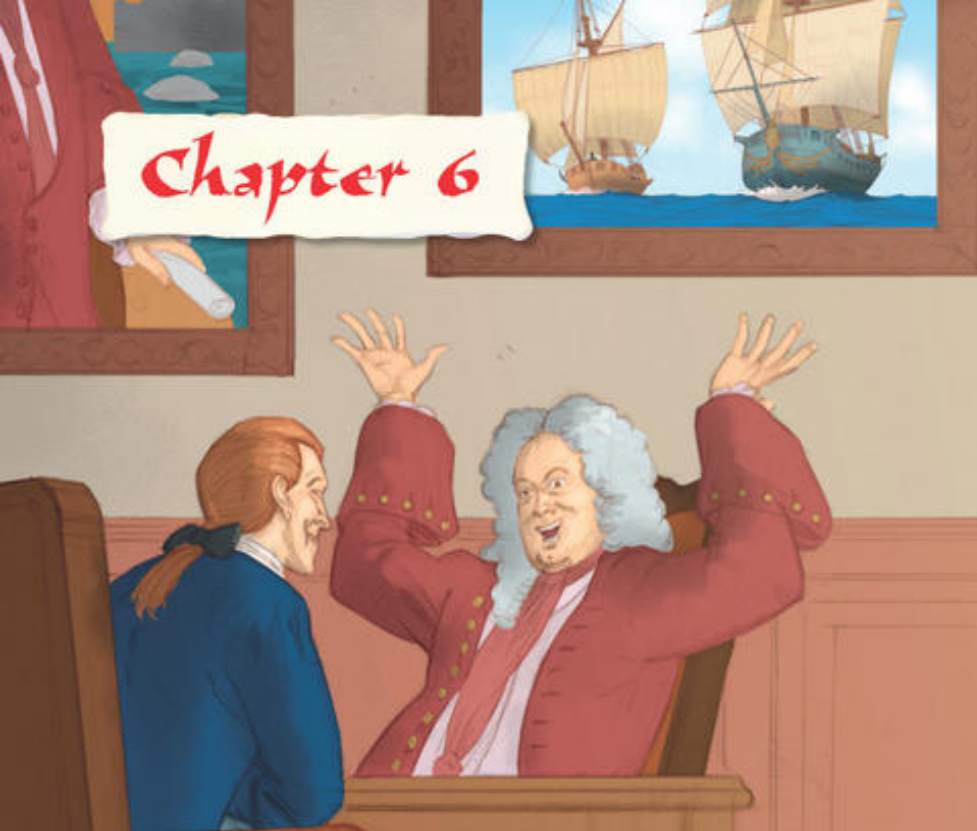
GUESS WHAT

How does the story end? Tick one box.

- a ☐ Blackbeard dies slowly in front of Spotswood.
- b ☐ Blackbeard dies suddenly in a fight.
- c ☐ Blackbeard dies happily in bed when he is very old.
- d ☐ Nobody knows when Blackbeard dies.



Chapter 6



In December 1718, Governor Spotswood hears more news about Blackbeard. 'He's at Ocracoke Inlet near North Carolina,' a Royal Navy captain tells him. 'Do you hear that, Maynard?' Spotswood asks. 'What can we do about it?'

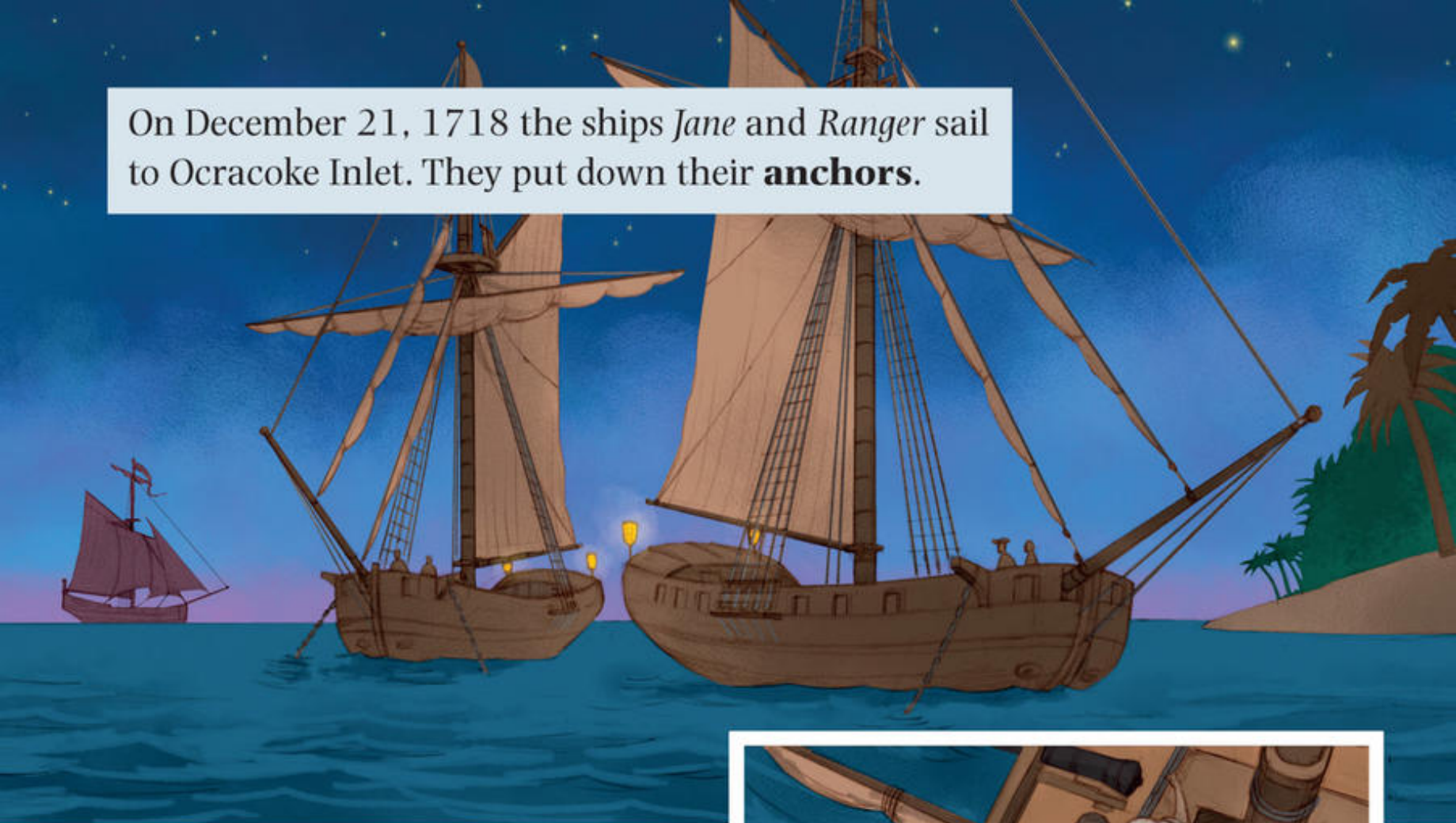


'Good,' Spotswood says. 'When can you leave?' 'In two days,' Maynard answers. Spotswood laughs. 'Blackbeard, we've got you!' he says.

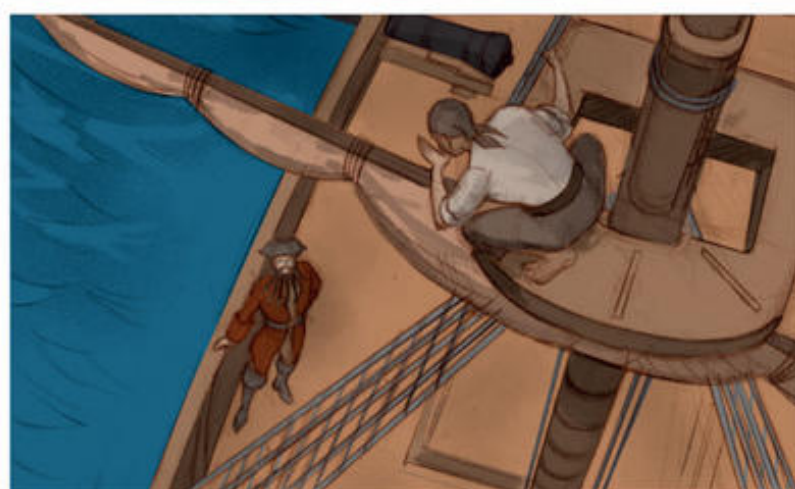


'I can take the *Jane* up to North Carolina with 35 men aboard,' Maynard says. 'And the *Ranger* can come with us, with 25 men under their captain, Mr Hyde.'

On December 21, 1718 the ships *Jane* and *Ranger* sail to Ocracoke Inlet. They put down their **anchors**.



Some of Blackbeard's crew are in the town of Bath not far away. Only eighteen men are with him on his ship, the *Adventure*.



'The Royal Navy's here, Captain!' the lookout calls.
'They're waiting for morning before they attack,' Blackbeard says.

Blackbeard drinks some rum.
'Can this be my last night, and my last fight tomorrow?' he thinks.



anchor a heavy metal thing that a ship puts down into the water when it wants to stop somewhere



'Fire!' Blackbeard calls to his men at their guns.



Next morning, the *Jane* and the *Ranger* move up the inlet. 'They're coming, Captain!' the *Adventure's* lookout calls.



The *Adventure's* guns hit the *Ranger* and kill some sailors. Captain Hyde, is one of them.



Lieutenant Maynard brings the *Jane* next to the *Adventure*. 'Guns ready!' Maynard calls to his gunners. 'Fire!'



‘Look! There aren’t many sailors on **deck** there now!’ Blackbeard calls to his men. ‘Let’s fight them!’ And he jumps across to the *Jane*.



But Maynard’s men are waiting. Suddenly they all come out from **below** the deck and begin to fight the pirates.



Now Blackbeard meets Maynard. ‘Are you ready to die, Lieutenant?’ Blackbeard asks, and he laughs. Maynard does not answer, but he hits Blackbeard’s arm with his sword.



One of the sailors fires his pistol at Blackbeard.

deck where you walk on a ship

below under

Suddenly, Maynard's sword **breaks**. Blackbeard laughs. But Maynard quickly takes his pistol and fires at the pirate captain.



He hits Blackbeard. Maynard fires his pistol again – and again – and again. In the end Blackbeard **falls** down on to the deck.



Blackbeard dies with five pistol **wounds** and twenty sword wounds in his body. 'I want his head!' Maynard says. 'The head of the most famous pirate in the Caribbean!'

break to make one thing into two things when you hit it

fall to go down suddenly

wound a hole in the body from a knife or a pistol

Maynard sails back to Virginia with Blackbeard's head on the front of his ship. With Blackbeard dead, the best days of the Caribbean pirates are past.



But two hundred of Blackbeard's pirates **escape**. And nobody finds his treasure. Is this Edward Teach's revenge?



Who knows? But the **legend** of Blackbeard stays alive to this day.

escape to get away

legend an old story – half true, half not true

READING CHECK

Choose the correct picture.



Blackbeard



Hyde



Maynard

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a ... goes after Blackbeard in his ship the <i>Jane</i> . | ☐ | ☐ | ☒ |
| b Maynard takes ... with him in the <i>Ranger</i> . | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| c ... drinks rum on the night before his last fight. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| d ... is the first captain to die the next day. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| e ...'s sailors come out from under his ship's deck. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| f ... dies after a long fight. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |
| g ... puts Blackbeard's head on the front of his ship. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |

WORD WORK

Write out the sentences with words from Chapter 6.

- a** The *Jane* and the *Ranger* put down their



and stop.

The *Jane* and the *Ranger* put down their anchors and stop.

- b** Blackbeard cannot see any sailors on the



of the *Jane*.

- c** When Maynard's sword



Blackbeard laughs.

- d** In the end Blackbeard



down and dies.

e The dead pirate captain has twenty-five



on his body.

f Many of Blackbeard's pirates



from Maynard.

WHAT NEXT?

**Here are some more famous real life pirates.
Which would you like to learn about next?
Why? Tick the boxes.**



☐ Henry Morgan, the pirate king, a famous Welsh pirate



☐ Anne Bonny, a famous woman pirate



☐ Khayr ad-Din Barbarossa, 'Redbeard', a famous Muslim pirate

Project A *A Wanted Poster*

- 1 Complete the Wanted Poster for 'Blackbeard' with the words and phrases from the box.

38 beard long, black 'Blackbeard' blockading Bristol, England
 the Caribbean Edward Teach, Tatch, or Thatch Governor Spotswood pistols
Queen Anne's Revenge 40 ships tall, frightening treasure 14 wives

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE



Reward of 500 gold doubloons for the capture of the Pirate _____

Real Name: _____

Age: _____

From: _____

Lives in: _____,

on his ship the _____

Crimes: capturing more than _____,

_____ stealing lots of

_____ Charleston, marrying _____

Appearance: a _____ man with a

_____ beard, usually wears lots of

_____ in his belt and puts smoking

fireworks in his _____

Contact: _____ of Virginia

- 2 Make a Wanted Poster for the pirate 'Mary Read' with the information in these notes.**

Mary Read

born 1690 – London, England

wears boys' clothes

gets dead brother's money from grandmother

works as sailor, soldier, then marries

opens pub with husband

husband dies

starts wearing men's clothes again

becomes Caribbean pirate

slim 'young man' with handsome face

wears scarf over long hair

lives on Captain Jack Rackham's ship, the *William*

falls in love with new young pirate

kills sailor when he wants to fight her lover

kills Captain Hudson of Pirate Ship *Royal Queen*

Pirate hunter Jonathan Barnet catches her

dies in 1721 in prison having Jack Rackham's child



- 3 Choose a different real life pirate and find out more about him or her. Imagine your pirate is alive today. Complete these sentences about him or her.**

- a** His/Her nickname is ...
- b** His/Her real name is ...
- c** He/She is from ...
- d** He/She lives in ...
- e** His/Her crimes are ...
- f** He/She looks ...
- g** He/She usually wears ...
- h** ... is looking for him/her.
- i** He/She is ... years old when he/she dies.

- 4 Make a Wanted Poster for your pirate with the information in 3.**

Project B***A Pirate Treasure Map***

1 Look at Blackbeard's map on page 43. Complete his instructions below.

Instructions to Find My Treasure

Sail your ship past Springer's _____ in the south-west of Ocracoke Island, and put down your anchor in Teach's Channel near The Ditch.
Leave your ship and go in a boat into Silver Lake

_____.
Leave your boat near Pilot _____, and walk north-east through Widgeon _____ to Oyster Creek _____.

Go south-east across the river and walk past the Old _____ on your right with Horsepen Point on your left.

When you come to Hammock _____, walk south-east over them. Then turn right and walk south-west along Shipwreck _____. When the fourth _____ is on your right, stop.
The treasure chest is under your feet.



- 2 Read the completed instructions in 1. Mark your moves on the above map with a dotted line (— — — —). Put an X where the treasure is.

- 3 Make a Pirate Treasure Map. Draw an island, name it, and put these things on it. Give them interesting pirate names.**

bay	hill	inlet	river	rock	swamp	village/town	wood/forest
-----	------	-------	-------	------	-------	--------------	-------------

- 4 Imagine there is a treasure chest on your island. Write instructions to find it.**
- 5 Work in pairs. Swap maps and instructions. Read your partner's instructions. Mark your moves on their map with a dotted line (— — — —). Put an X where the treasure is.**
- 6 Check your partner's work. Are they right?**

Treasure Map

Instructions

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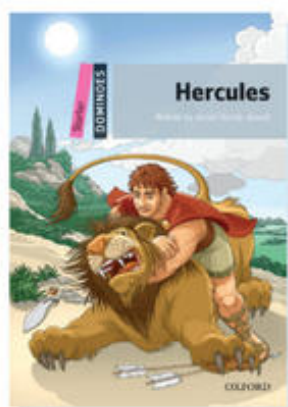
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Blackbeard

The year is 1717. It is a bad time to be the captain of a ship in the Caribbean because of pirates. The most frightening pirate on the sea is Edward Teach, or 'Blackbeard'.

'The Governor of Virginia wants us all dead!' Blackbeard thinks. 'But can he kill me – the most famous pirate in the Caribbean? *No!*'

This is his story...

Illustrated by Sebastian Camagajevac



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Word count 2,210

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One	400
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ISBN 978-0-19-424714-6



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